

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 05395 111036Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-02 /012 W
-----111105Z 122724 /17
R 111015Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0014
INFO DEA HQS WASHDC
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 5395

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SNAR, TH
SUBJECT: ACQUITTAL OF NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS

REF: 1976 BANGKOK 15145

1. NOTORIOUS MALAYSIAN DRUG TRAFFICKER LU PENG KIA WAS ACQUITTED BY THE COURT OF APPEALS ON MARCH 11, OVERTURNING A CONVICTION AND 40 YEAR JAIL SENTENCE HANDED DOWN BY THE CRIMINAL COURT ON MAY 25, 1976 (REFTEL). THEY HAD BEEN ARRESTED IN 1973. ACQUITTED ALONG WITH HIM WAS HIS THAI PARTNER, UDOM ASAWAICHIWATHANA, ALSO SENTENCED TO A 40 YEAR TERM. THE DUO HAVE NOT RPT NOT BEEN RELEASED, PENDING AN APPEAL BY THE PUBLIC PROSECUTOR TO THE SUPREME COURT.

2. THE APPEALS COURT REPORTEDLY BASED ITS DECISION ON AN ALLEGED "LACK OF EVIDENCE" IN THE CASE, AND THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE NEWSPAPER NATION REPORTED THAT THE VERDICT STATED THAT MANY DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE CASE HAD "DISAPPEARED" SINCE THE OCTOBER, 1973, RIOTS.

3. THAI NARCOTICS OFFICIALS ARE CONCERNED OVER THE DECISION, AND A SENIOR POLICE GENERAL TOLD A DEA
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PAGE 02 BANGKO 05395 111036Z

REPRESENTATIVE THAT HE IS "LOOKING INTO THE MATTER."
HE ADDED THAT HE WAS PERSONNALLY VERY DISTURBED BY THE ACQUITTAL.

4. WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO LEARN MORE DETAILS SURROUNDING THE DECISION BY THE APPEALS COURT, AND ALSO WHAT ACTION NARCOTICS OFFICIALS MIGHT TAKE AGAINST LU PENG KIA,

SHOULD THE SUPREME COURT UPHOLD APPEALS COURT.
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NARCOTICS, DRUG CONTROL, COURT DECISIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BANGKO05395
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Executive Order: N/A
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 96e13dba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Page Count: 2
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Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3143736
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ACQUITTAL OF NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS
TAGS: SNAR, TH, (LU PENG KIA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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